



FIELD CROPS

CROP PRODUCTION

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August 13, 2007

FLORIDA

Florida: During early July, conditions continued to worsen from the lack of rain for most crops throughout the Panhandle and northern Peninsula areas. Hay fields continued to suffer from dry weather with most fields still brown and not growing in Jackson County. All but irrigated corn was negatively impacted by the drought in Jackson County, with cattlemen feeding the abandoned corn to cattle due to the lack of hay. In Washington County, most field crop producers applied fertilizer to stimulate production and fight weed problems since herbicides were less effective on drought-stressed plants. By mid-July, peanuts in some parts of Jackson County were reported in good condition due to rains. The digging of green peanuts started in Marion County. In Santa Rosa County, some cotton showed uneven stands due to delayed emergence caused by earlier dry conditions and the oldest cotton was blooming. In Gadsden County, most hay needed soaking rains to ensure proper growth for a first cut. Growers did not make first cuts of hay in Jefferson County due to the slow growth caused by the dry weather. By late July, rains improved peanuts and hay field conditions in the Panhandle as well as northern Peninsula areas. The rains helped elevate soil moisture supplies across the State, but it skipped some field crop growing areas. In Suwannee and Jackson counties, peanuts were growing well, although weeds were causing problems for some growers. In Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, hay growth was starting to pick up and cotton and peanuts looked fair to good. The dry weather during the planting season resulted in some poor peanut stands. Corn planted early suffered from dry weather, while late plantings were doing better. In Jefferson County, hay fields were recovering, although some acreage showed permanent drought damage. The pecan crop was in fair to good condition with the June and July nut drop not as severe as it appeared earlier in the season. Soil moisture was rated mostly adequate in most central and southern Peninsula counties, but varied from very short to adequate over the Panhandle and northern Peninsula.

COTTON: Production is expected to total 170,000 bales compared to 166,000 bales harvested last year. Yield per acre is set at 785 pounds, down less than one percent from the 789 pounds per acre for the 2006 crop. Acreage to be picked is estimated at 104,000 acres, up 3,000 acres from a year ago.

PEANUTS: Harvested acreage is forecast at 100,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from last year. Yield is expected to average 2,800 pounds per acre, up 300 pounds from the 2006 crop yield. Production is set at 280.0 million pounds, down from the 300.0 million pounds produced last year.

SUGARCANE: Production for both sugar and seed is set at 15,444,000 tons, up 8 percent from the 14,346,000 tons produced last year. Yield is expected to average 39.0 tons per acre versus 35.9 tons in 2006. Producers expect to harvest 396,000 acres for the season, compared to 400,000 acres harvested during the 2006 crop.

UNITED STATES

COTTON: Upland cotton growers planted 10.8 million acres, unchanged from the June estimate but down 28 percent from a year ago. Growers expect to harvest 10.3 million acres, down 17 percent from last year. American-Pima cotton producers planted 298,000 acres, unchanged from June but down 28,000 acres from last year. Expected harvested area, at 293,000 acres, is down 9 percent from last year. Producers in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia) finished planting in late June. American-Pima production is forecast at a record high 808,500 bales, up 6 percent from last year.

PEANUTS: Production is forecast at 3.37 billion pounds, down 3 percent from last year's crop and down 31 percent from 2005. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.16 million acres, unchanged from June but down 4 percent from 2006. Yields are expected to average 2,909 pounds per acre, 35 pounds per acre above last year. Planted acres, at 1.19 million, are unchanged from the June estimate but 5 percent below 2006. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina) is expected to total 2.27 billion pounds, down 10 percent from last year's level. Yields in the region are expected to average 2,736 pounds per acre, 37 pounds above 2006. Yields are equal to or higher than last year in all Southeast States except Alabama. Yields in Alabama are expected to average 2,300 pounds per acre, down 200 pounds from 2006, as producers are facing extreme drought conditions throughout most of the State. Expected area for harvest, at 830,000 acres, is down 11 percent from last year. As of July 29, peanuts pegging in Alabama, at 55 percent, and Florida, at 80 percent, lagged their 5-year average by 17 and 13 percentage points, respectively.

SUGARCANE: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2007 is forecast at 31.5 million tons, up 7 percent from last year. Growers intend to harvest 893,000 acres for sugar and seed during the 2007 crop year, up 1,300 acres from the June forecast but 5,100 acres less than last year. Yield is forecast at 35.3 tons per acre, up 2.4 tons per acre from last year. Production is expected to increase in all States, while yields are forecast to increase in all States except Texas.

TOBACCO: Flue-cured tobacco production is expected to total 496 million pounds, up 4 percent from the previous forecast and 11 percent above 2006. Growers plan to harvest 224,000 acres in 2007, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 5 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 2,212 pounds per acre, up 86 pounds from the July 1 forecast and 117 pounds greater than a year ago. Harvest is underway in all flue-cured States but is a little behind schedule in all States except Virginia. Hot, dry weather has been a concern for growers in all flue-cured States but recent rainfall in most States has increased optimism for good yields.

CORN: Corn production is forecast at 13.1 billion bushels, up 24 percent from last year and 17 percent above 2005. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 152.8 bushels per acre, up 3.7 bushels from last year. If realized, this will be the second highest yield on record, behind the 160.4 bushel yield in 2004. However, production will be the largest on record as growers intend to harvest the most corn acres for grain since 1933. Expected yields across much of the northern and eastern Corn Belt, Ohio Valley, Tennessee Valley, Southeast, and Atlantic Coast States are below last year as hot, dry conditions during much of the growing season reduced soil moisture supplies and stressed the crop.

SOYBEANS: Soybean production is forecast at 2.63 billion bushels, down 18 percent from last year's record high and down 14 percent from 2005. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.5 bushels per acre, down 1.2 bushels from last year. Yields are lower than 2006 throughout most of the Atlantic Coast States, most of the Corn Belt, and the Tennessee Valley, while yields are expected to remain unchanged or increase across the Great Plains, the Gulf Coast States, and Arkansas. Area for harvest, at 63.3 million acres, remains unchanged from June but is down 15 percent from 2006.

CROP PRODUCTION: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of August 1, 2007 with comparisons

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2006	For harvest 2007	2006	Indicated 2007		2006	Indicated 2007
	Thousands					Thousands	
FLORIDA							
Cotton	101	104	789	785	^{1/}	166	170
Peanuts	120	100	2,500	2,800	Lbs.	300,000	280,000
Potatoes:							
Winter ^{2/}	5.5	^{3/}	250	^{3/}	Cwt	1,375	^{3/}
Spring ^{2/}	22.6	27.2	285	284	Cwt	6,441	7726
Sugarcane	400	396	35.9	39.0	Ton	14,346	15,444
Tobacco, Type 14	1.1	^{4/}	2,600	^{4/}	Lbs.	2,860	^{4/}
UNITED STATES							
Corn for grain	70,648	85,418	149.1	152.8	Bu.	10,534,868	13,053,617
Cotton, All ^{5/}	12,731.5	10,636.0	814	783	^{1/}	21,587.8	17,345.5
Hay, Alfalfa	2,1384	21,451	3.35	3.26	Ton	71,666	69,904
Hay, All Other	39,423	40,338	1.78	1.87	Ton	70,000	75,347
Peanuts for nuts	1,209	1,158	2,874	2,909	Lbs.	3,474,450	3,368,700
Potatoes:							
Winter ^{2/}	17.5	11.5	257	215	Cwt	4,495	2,473
Spring ^{2/}	67.5	70.4	293	294	Cwt	19,766	20,668
Summer ^{2/}	54.3	53.8	338	311	Cwt	18,350	16,749
Fall ^{2/}	976.2	996.2	402	^{6/}	Cwt	391,978	^{6/}
Rice	2,821	2,726	6,868	6,984	^{7/}	193,736	190,392
Sorghum for grain	4,937	6,698	56.2	70.9	Bu.	277,538	474,961
Soybeans for beans	74,602	63,285	42.7	41.5	Bu.	3,188,247	2,625,274
Sugarbeets	1,303.6	1,241.4	26.1	24.0	Ton	34,064	29,815
Sugarcane for							
sugar and seed	898.1	893.0	32.9	35.3	Ton	29,580	31,517
Tobacco, All	338.9	354.1	2,144	2,189	Lbs.	726,644	774,950
Wheat:							
Winter	31,117	37,188	41.7	41.3	Bu.	1,298,081	1,537,262
Durum	1,815	2,163	29.5	35.5	Bu.	53,475	76,689
Other spring	13,878	12,733	33.2	39.3	Bu.	460,480	500,073

^{1/} Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales.

^{2/} Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

^{3/} Winter potatoes combined with spring.

^{4/} Estimates discontinued in 2007.

^{5/} Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton.

^{6/} First forecast in November.

^{7/} Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. Includes sweet rice production.